1	2	3
Amod	Low Power Transmitter	1995-96**
Mangrol (Surat Distt.) . .	-do-	1995-96**
Jhagadia	-do	1995-96**
*Mahuva	-do	1995-96**
*Palitana	-do	1995-96**
Netrang	Very Low Power Transmitter	1995-96**
Devgarh-Baria	-do-	1995-96**

*The star marked projects are being set up in Saurashtra Region.

**LPT/VLPTs targetted for commissioning by 1995-96 are subject to availbability of requisite infrastructural requirements and timely supply of equipments.

Dulhasti Hydroelectric Power Project

*24. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether work on the Dulhasti Hydroelectric Power Project in J&K is likely to resume shortly; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI N. K. P. SALVE): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. National Hydroelectric Power Corporation and the French Consortium of firms are negotiating the terms of resumption of work and towards this end a Memorandum of Understanding was recently signed by them.

Inflation going into double digits

*29. SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI: MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that inflation has gone upto double figures during the last one month; if so, reasons therefor; and

(b) the measures Government have taken to check the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY): (a) Yes, Sir, the latest inflation rate for the week ended 9th July, 1994 was 10.35 per cent. The rate of inflation had declined very significantly in the middle of 1993-94 but inflationary pressures resurfaced in the later part of the year. Factors that may have fuelled inflationary expectations were: (i) a high fiscal deficit; (ii) high growth of money supply; (iii) production shortfalls in sugar, cotton, jute and groundnut and (iv) large increases in minimum farm support prices continuously for the last three years and the consequent rise in the issue price for PDS.

(b) Anti-inflationary measures taken in recent months are:

(i) Striving to limit the fiscal deficit for 1994-95 to 6 per cent of GDP as against 7.3 per cent last year.

(ii) placing a cap on temporary borrowings from RBI and progressively eliminating recourse to ad-

hoc Treasury bills and containing monetary growth to 14 per cent to 15 percent as against 17.8 percent last year.

Supply management measures

(iii) allowing import to sugar and cotton under on OGL with zero duty.

(iv) placing import of refined palmolein OGL and allowing imports for PDS at concessional duty of 20 percent.

(v) allowing import of Viscose Staple Fibre at 7 percent duty to supplement cotton|yarn poduction shortfall.

(vi) active intervention in the foodgrains market by open market sale of rice and wheat through FCI.

(vii) Selective credit control measures for agro raw material—cotton, vegetable oil, oilseed and pulses.

Denial of credit to sick units

*30. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:
SHRI N. GIRI PRASAD: ....

Will the Minister of FNANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the moment a public sector sick unit is referred to BIFR, it is being denied of credit facility by the nationalised banks and financial institutions, thereby made to starve of supply of raw materials and other basic inputs and pushed towards further losses; and

(b) if so, he deails and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY): (a) and (b) When sick units, including public sector undertakings are referred to the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction, banks extend need based support and allow 'holding-on' operation on a case to case basis. Commercial banks have been advised by the Reserve Bank of India that they should not abruptly stop the credit facilities to such units but should exercise their judgemen in regards to continuance of the 'holding-on' operations.

Disinvestment of shares of public sector undertakings L

*31. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) how many times Government have resorted to disinvestment of shares of public sector undertakings so far and the number of shares disinvested in each case and the amount of money mobilised thereby;

(b) whether this money has been ploughed back to the public sector for their improvement;

(c) if so, the details; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor and how this money has been utilised so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY): (a) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House. (See below)

(b) to (d) Amounts realised from disinvestment from time to time have been credited to the Consolidated Fund of Government. Fresh assistance to public sector undertakings for their improvement by way of equity and loan assistance are provided through the budgetary procese in the normal course.